

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : SPRATTE et al  
Serial No. : 10/595,229  
Confirm. No. : 5165  
Filed : March 28, 2006  
For : BALL AND SOCKET . . .  
Art Unit : N/A  
Examiner : N/A  
Dated : March 28, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant requests that the Examiner consider references which have come to Applicant's attention.

- DE 101 61 671 A1 discloses a ball and socket joint with an electronic component fixed therein. This reference corresponds to U.S. Publication US 2004/067096 which is also cited on the attached PTO-1449 form.

- DE 100 09 054 A1 has been cited in the corresponding German Examination Proceeding. This reference corresponds to US 6,688,165 which is also cited on the attached PTO-1449 form. Further, Applicant attaches an English language abstract.

The International Search Report has cited JP 52 125974. The reference discloses a ball joint fitted with water detecting apparatus. No translation is available at this time. However, Applicant attaches an English language abstract. The reference is cited under Category X as

to International claims 1 - 5, 14 and 15 and under Category A as to International claims 6 - 13 and 16. The entire document is indicated to be relevant.

Consideration of the references is requested.

Respectfully submitted  
for Applicant,

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
John James McGlew  
Registration No. 31,903  
McGLEW AND TUTTLE, P.C.

JJM:tf  
72142.5

Enclosed: PTO-1449 Form  
copy of International Search Report  
copies of (3) References

DATED: March 28, 2006  
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SHOULD ANY OTHER FEE BE REQUIRED, THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
IS HEREBY REQUESTED TO CHARGE SUCH FEE TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 13-  
0410.